

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1. (currently amended) A receptacle for receiving material to be placed on a beverage container, the receptacle comprising:

a recessed portion having an interior area extending toward a center of the receptacle and an exterior area extending away from the center of the receptacle and wherein the recessed portion includes a substantially flat surface extending from the interior area to the exterior area;

a raised portion having a convex shape and connected to the interior area of the recessed portion extending upward and toward the center of the receptacle a first distance between approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ and less than 2 inches and wherein the raised portion is substantially circular and has an outer diameter between approximately two inches and approximately four inches; and

an outer wall portion connected to the exterior area and extending at least partly upwardly a second distance greater than the first distance to a rim forming an opening that has a maximum opening dimension greater than the second distance.

2. (original) The receptacle of claim 1 wherein the raised portion is a closed continuous surface.

3. (original) The receptacle of claim 1 wherein the raised portion has a closed surface that is substantially dome-shaped.

4. (previously presented) The receptacle of claim 3 wherein the raised portion extends upward to a top-most portion of the raised portion at a center of the receptacle and wherein the first distance from the recessed portion to the top-most portion is greater than approximately 1/2 inch.

5. (previously presented) The receptacle of claim 4 wherein the first distance is approximately three quarter inch.

6. Canceled.

7. (original) The receptacle of claim 1 wherein the outer wall portion extends substantially vertically.

8. (previously presented) The receptacle of claim 1 wherein the outer wall portion forms a substantially circular wall extending around the recessed portion and has a diameter greater than 4 inches.

9. Canceled.

10. (previously presented) The receptacle of claim 1 wherein the second distance is at least twice the first distance.

11. (currently amended) A receptacle for receiving material to be placed on a beverage container, the receptacle comprising:

a recessed portion having an interior area extending toward a center of the receptacle and an exterior area extending away from the center of the receptacle;

a raised portion having a convex shape and connected to the interior area of the recessed portion extending upward and toward the center of the receptacle a first distance between approximately 1/2 and less than 2 inches and wherein the raised

portion is substantially circular and has an outer diameter between approximately two inches and approximately four inches; and

an outer wall portion connected to the exterior area and extending at least partly upwardly a second distance greater than the first distance to a rim forming an opening that has a maximum opening dimension greater than the second distance; and

~~The receptacle of claim 4~~ wherein the second distance is approximately twice the first distance.

12. (previously presented) A receptacle for receiving material to be placed on a beverage container, the receptacle comprising:

a recessed portion having an interior area extending toward a center of the receptacle and an exterior area extending away from the center of the receptacle;

a raised portion having a convex shape and connected to the interior area of the recessed portion extending upward and toward the center of the receptacle a first distance between approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ and less than 2 inches;

an outer wall portion connected to the exterior area and extending at least partly upwardly a second distance greater than the first distance to a rim forming an opening that has a maximum opening dimension greater than the second distance and wherein the opening dimension is greater than 4 inches; and

wherein the second distance is approximately two inches.

13. (original) The receptacle of claim 1 wherein the recessed portion, the raised portion and the outer wall portion extend substantially in a circle.

14. (previously presented) A receptacle for receiving a material to be placed on a beverage container, the receptacle comprising:

a closed body portion having an upper rim defining an opening into the receptacle, an outer wall portion extending downwardly a first distance from the upper rim to a base portion, wherein the first distance is between one-quarter and 2 inches, the base portion having a substantially flat surface facing upwardly toward the opening

and extending inwardly toward a center from the outer wall portion to a raised portion, wherein the base portion is configured to support a granular material and sized sufficiently to receive an open rim of a beverage container and wherein a largest dimension of the base portion across the body is greater than 4 inches, wherein the raised portion extends inwardly from the base portion substantially constantly upwardly toward a center of the receptacle and wherein the raised portion has a vertical height approximately half the first distance and a largest dimension of the raised portion across the body is between approximately 2 and 4 inches, and wherein the raised portion is configured to allow a granular material to move under the force of gravity toward the base portion.

15. (original) The receptacle of claim 14 wherein the raised portion is substantially convex.

16. (previously presented) The receptacle of claim 15 wherein the raised portion has a substantially constant curvature.

17. (original) The receptacle of claim 14 wherein the outer wall portion is substantially vertical.

18. (previously presented) The receptacle of claim 17 wherein the raised portion includes a substantially vertical wall joined to the base portion.

19. (previously presented) A receptacle for receiving a material to be placed on a beverage container, the receptacle comprising:

a round container having an upper rim defining an opening into the container, an outer wall portion extending vertically downwardly a first distance from the upper rim to a base portion, wherein the first distance is between one-quarter inch and 2 inches, the base portion having a substantially flat surface facing upwardly toward the opening and extending inwardly toward a center from the outer wall portion to a raised portion,

wherein the raised portion extends inwardly from the base portion substantially constantly upwardly toward a center of the receptacle and wherein the raised portion has a vertical height approximately half the first distance; and

a round rimming dish sized to fit at least partly within the round container, the dish having a first recessed area for receiving a coating material for coating a rim of a drink ware, and also having a raised area in the dish sized sufficiently to allow manual grasping of the raised area and wherein the raised area includes a wall defining an outer perimeter of the raised area and wherein the raised area further includes a second recessed area within the wall.

20. (original) The receptacle of claim 19 further including a lid sized to fit over the container rim.

21. (previously presented) A receptacle comprising:
a receptacle wall extending upwardly from a bottom portion of the receptacle wall to a rim, wherein the rim defines an opening having a size sufficient to receive the open rim of an item of drink ware and wherein the largest distance across the opening is greater than 4 inches and wherein the rim has an upper surface;

a bottom wall joining the receptacle wall at the bottom portion of the receptacle wall, the bottom wall having a relatively flat section adjacent the receptacle wall and a raised portion interior to the relatively flat section and wherein the raised portion extends upward to an upper position above the relatively flat section and below the rim wherein the upper position is greater than or equal to about one-half inch and less than two inches, wherein the raised portion has a largest distance across the receptacle between 2 and 4 inches and wherein opening size is greater than a distance from the bottom portion to the rim of the receptacle wall.

22. (previously presented) The receptacle of claim 21 wherein the upper position is about one-half inch.

23. (previously presented) The receptacle of claim 21 wherein the raised portion has a curvature over substantially the entire surface of the raised portion.

24-28. Canceled.

29. (previously presented) The receptacle of claim 19 wherein the raised area extends beyond the level of the upper rim.

30. (previously presented) The receptacle of claim 19 wherein the second recessed area includes a raised portion extending substantially upward to separate the second recessed area into first and second regions.

31. (previously presented) The receptacle of claim 30 wherein the raised portion is a diametrically extending wall dividing the first and second regions.

32. (previously presented) The receptacle of claim 31 wherein the diametrically extending wall extends above the upper rim.

33. (previously presented) The receptacle of claim 19 wherein the recessed area and the raised area each occupy respective surface areas in the rimming dish and wherein the recessed area surface area is greater than the raised area surface area.

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